

# Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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INCE 1877  
R 6, 2005  
VOL. 129  
No. 39

## Donations to hurricane relief effort

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB) is accepting donations to fund both the immediate needs and long-term Mississippi Baptist disaster relief efforts along the Gulf Coast and throughout the state. Checks should be made payable to MBCB, with "Hurricane Relief" noted on the memo line, and mailed to MBCB Business Office, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Fully 100% of the donations will be used directly for hurricane relief. More information on how to contribute can be obtained by calling (601) 292-3206, or e-mailing [mbcbdisasterrelief@mbcb.org](mailto:mbcbdisasterrelief@mbcb.org).

## Adopt A Church partnerships set

JACKSON, Ms. (Special) — The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB) has initiated a program in cooperation with the North American Mission Board that will match churches and individuals with Mississippi Baptist churches devastated by Hurricane Katrina in partnership-style, ongoing relationships.

Jim Didlake, MBCB Men's Ministry Director and the convention board's coordinator of disaster relief ministries, said the program is open now to Southern Baptist churches in other states as well as Mississippi Baptist churches that wish to partner with these devastated churches in the state.

Churches wishing to adopt devastated churches, and devastated churches willing to be adopted, should register as soon as possible by visiting [www.mbc.org](http://www.mbc.org) and clicking on the "Hurricane Katrina Information" crawl at the top of the page. Churches that fill out either form will be contacted within three business days, Didlake said.

"This will prove to be an ideal way to link hurting churches with churches being led by the Lord to make a substantial, long-term commitment to Kingdom work in the affected area. We know both the giver and receiver will be blessed," Didlake said.

## 'Everyone Can' now in full swing

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — For more than a year, Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) President Bobby Welch has been traveling the country, spreading the word about a convention-wide emphasis on witnessing to, winning, and baptizing one million people in one year.

The "Everyone Can' Kingdom Challenge!" for evangelism was officially launched in June at the SBC annual meeting in Nashville and in July, Welch issued a call for all 1,183 Baptist associations across the nation to hold two "associational baptism rallies" between October 1 of this year and September 30, 2006.

Baptism rallies, Welch said, should be a joint effort among all the churches of an association. They should choose a neutral outdoor site at which to hold the rally, he said, and ideally, each participating pastor should bring at least one person to be baptized into his church fellowship at the rally. Times of testimonies, singing and preaching could accompany the baptisms, according to the desires of each association.

Welch, pastor of First Church in Daytona Beach, Fla., has been a member of the Halifax Association there for 31 years and will lead a baptism rally on the beach this weekend to kick off the year of 1 million baptisms. "Not only is it believed that associational baptism rallies will encourage baptism but it will also be an effort that will draw pastors and people together for a unity of purpose that carries out the Great Commission," Welch said.

Southern Baptists were introduced to Welch's passion for reviving a baptism



RAISED IN CHRIST — The importance of baptism was underscored during the SBC annual meeting when Poly Rouse and other Nashville-area pastors baptized people into their congregations. Denise Lingefelt was among those baptized by Rouse. (BP file photo by Van Payne)

emphasis last fall when he embarked on a 50-state bus tour, stopping at Baptist churches along the way to encourage them to be part of winning a lost world to Christ. Everywhere he set foot, Welch made a point to share the Gospel with at least one person in order to lead by example.

At First Church in Horn Lake, 36 new believers were baptized on Sept. 25. Those baptized were just a few from the 423 professions of faith the church saw as a result of three nights of the drama presentation, *Heaven's Gates and Hell's Flames*.

"This is just a movement of God," said pastor Joe Turner, president-elect of the Mississippi Baptist Pastor's Conference. "Jesus said in John 12:32, 'If I be lifted up, I'll draw all men unto me,' and what we've been doing is lifting up Jesus. That's what's doing it."

The drama, presented by Reality Outreach Ministries, ran September 18-21, and was packed every night. It was so successful that the church extended it for another three nights the following week. In addition to the 423 professions of faith, 171 people rededicated their lives to Christ during the services.

"We prayed before the drama came for a transformation, where pastor, staff, church would never be the same again, and that's what we got," Turner said. "People are just excited about what God's doing and that he's chosen to work here."

At the convention in Nashville, Welch drew attention to the ordinance of baptism by calling on local pastors to baptize people into their congregations throughout the

two-day meeting. Two new believers, a Christian recording artist and a soldier who served in Iraq were among eight people baptized at the convention.

Denise Lingefelt, a former drug addict and prostitute, was one of the eight. Lingefelt, who grew up in 17 foster homes, five group homes, and eight orphanages, had once worked temporarily in the Gaylord Entertainment Center, site of this year's annual meeting.

"I used to clean this place. Now, I am getting cleaned up in this place," she marveled. Pointing to the white baptismal robe she was wearing, she tearfully added, "I'm finally going to get rid of all the dark that has been in me, and I'll be white like this."

As their name alludes, Southern Baptists believe baptism is an important component of the Christian life. Their faith statement, the Baptist Faith and Message, has this to say on the subject:

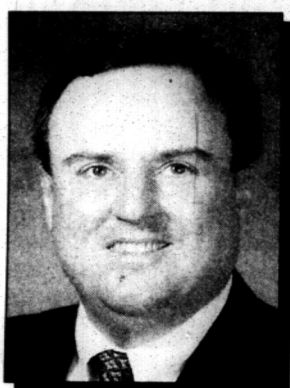
*Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Saviour, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to his faith in the final resurrection of the dead. Being a church ordinance, it is prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and to the Lord's Supper.*

Welch is urging churches to report their baptism numbers on a weekly, biweekly or monthly basis by calling (877) 289-3590. Each caller will be required to present the church's SBC identification number. For more information, visit [www.everyonecan.net](http://www.everyonecan.net).





## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



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# Gamblers: victorious again

As this issue of The Baptist Record was going to the printer, the Mississippi Legislature handed Governor Haley Barbour a victory in his campaign to allow Gulf Coast casinos to move off the water and on to land. Details of the casino bill and how it was passed in the special session will be reported on the pages of this newspaper over the next several weeks.

Needless to say, most Mississippi Baptists were against this expansion of legalized gambling and were more than willing to let their legislators know it. The Mississippi Baptists who contacted their legislators are to be commended; the Mississippi Baptists who failed to do so — and those who even openly supported the bill — should be ashamed. Because of them, the gambling/political complex in Mississippi is on a roll and will continue to exercise its ever-increasing power over public officials and our daily lives.

Recall that when the Legislature legalized gambling halls by a single vote in 1990, we were told that the casinos

would be small dockside riverboats, but that was a lie. The casinos quickly grew into football-field-sized barges that hardly touched the water. Last year, the Legislature bowed to the casinos once again and passed legislation that allowed them to place pilings under the barges to make the structures permanent — but before they had time to do that, the gamblers were back at the Legislature after Hurricane Katrina demanding authority to move on to land under threat of not rebuilding unless they got their way.

The land-based gambling bill, which originated as House Bill 45, sailed through the Senate without any changes. That indeed made the bill very rare, and an ominous indication of the muscle that was flexed by the gambling-political complex.

"STILL UNHAPPY WITH MY PREACHING, MRS. LEDBETTER?"



This commentary is certainly not meant to be a condemnation of all public officials. To be sure, there were members of the House and Senate who have never cast a vote to give the gamblers what they want, and they didn't vote with the gamblers in this special session. We should applaud them, support them, and make sure the all-powerful gambling/political complex does not move to punish them. If we don't, those legislators are apt to conclude that we don't care about them — and that could be fatal for our influence in the future.

Gambling is not, and never will be, a dependable source of funding for our state and local governments. If Hurricane Katrina proved anything, it is that fact. So addicted are our public offi-

cials to gambling taxes that the casino owners were successful in blackmailing the Governor and a majority of the members of the Legislature into doing their bidding during this special session.

It was foolish of our public officials to ever believe that the casinos wouldn't build back unless they got what they wanted. Who walks away from a business that brings in \$1.5 billion each year? Even if the present casino owners didn't build back, there are a host of other gambling companies who would be more than willing to pick up the slack after the big boys left Mississippi.

It was foolish of the news media to swallow that lie, too. Mississippi news media are, of course, beholden to the gamblers for the gamblers' inexhaustible streams of advertising revenue and other goodies such as trade-outs. (Trade-outs are free perks given to news media employees — mostly the higher-ups — in exchange for advertising. That's one of the news media's dirty little secrets.)

Thanks to the news media's addiction to the gambling money, religious groups and anti-gambling folks like you and me were cast as everything from loud-mouthed obstructionists to meddlers to looters. When there's that much money at stake, the news media's much-vaunted objectivity goes out with the trash.

It is truly a sad day for Mississippi and her citizens. We have passed up what may well be the last opportunity for a long time to stop the unbridled expansion of gambling in Mississippi.

Jesus said, "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money." (Matthew 6:24 NIV)

The State of Mississippi and certain of its public officials have devoted themselves to serving money. We will come to rue the day they ever made that choice for us.

### October 16 is Baptist College Day in Mississippi.

Life is about learning how to make decisions, and the better decisions we make the better our lives will become. The most important decision anyone can make is the decision to follow Jesus Christ as Lord. Compared to this eternal decision, all others fade in significance, yet we must live with the consequences of other major decisions.

One of the most critical life decisions is the decision to attend college, but how will you choose a college from among the hundreds of alternatives: public, private, or church-related? In choosing a college, seek the following answers. They should help you make an informed decision.

Does the college offer the programs in which you are interested, and what is the reputation of those programs? Mississippi College offers eight undergraduate degrees in 72 fields and 14 graduate degrees in 30 fields plus the Juris Doctor degree in law, so there is much to choose from at Mississippi College. Obtain information from the col-

## GUEST OPINION:



### Choosing a college

By Lee G. Royce, President  
Mississippi College, Clinton

lege and talk to fellow students, alumni, and faculty.

What financial aid is available? Never be turned off by the stated cost of tuition, room, and board. All colleges offer significant scholarship and financial aid assistance and our Baptist colleges are no exception. There is also much assistance available through state and federal programs. So often I hear someone say, "I cannot afford a Baptist college education." In light of our program quality and Christian influence, I don't see how you cannot afford a Baptist education.

How does the campus "feel?" Visit the college to see if those

you meet are friendly and genuinely interested in you. Does the college emphasize its academic program and strive to create a strong learning environment? Athletics are important, but they need to be secondary to the academic program.

What extracurricular services and programs are available? Pay particular attention to career planning and placement services, internships, and service opportunities.

How will your faith in Christ be strengthened and deepened by this college? Does the college encourage Christian faith, and, if so, how? Last year, 43 of

our students made first-time professions of faith for Christ and hundreds more served in mission work. Attend a college where Christian faith and commitment are in evidence.

Many other questions will come to mind, but this is a good starter set. Obviously, you can obtain a fine education at any number of colleges including Mississippi Baptists' other colleges, Blue Mountain and William Carey, but I want to commend Mississippi College.

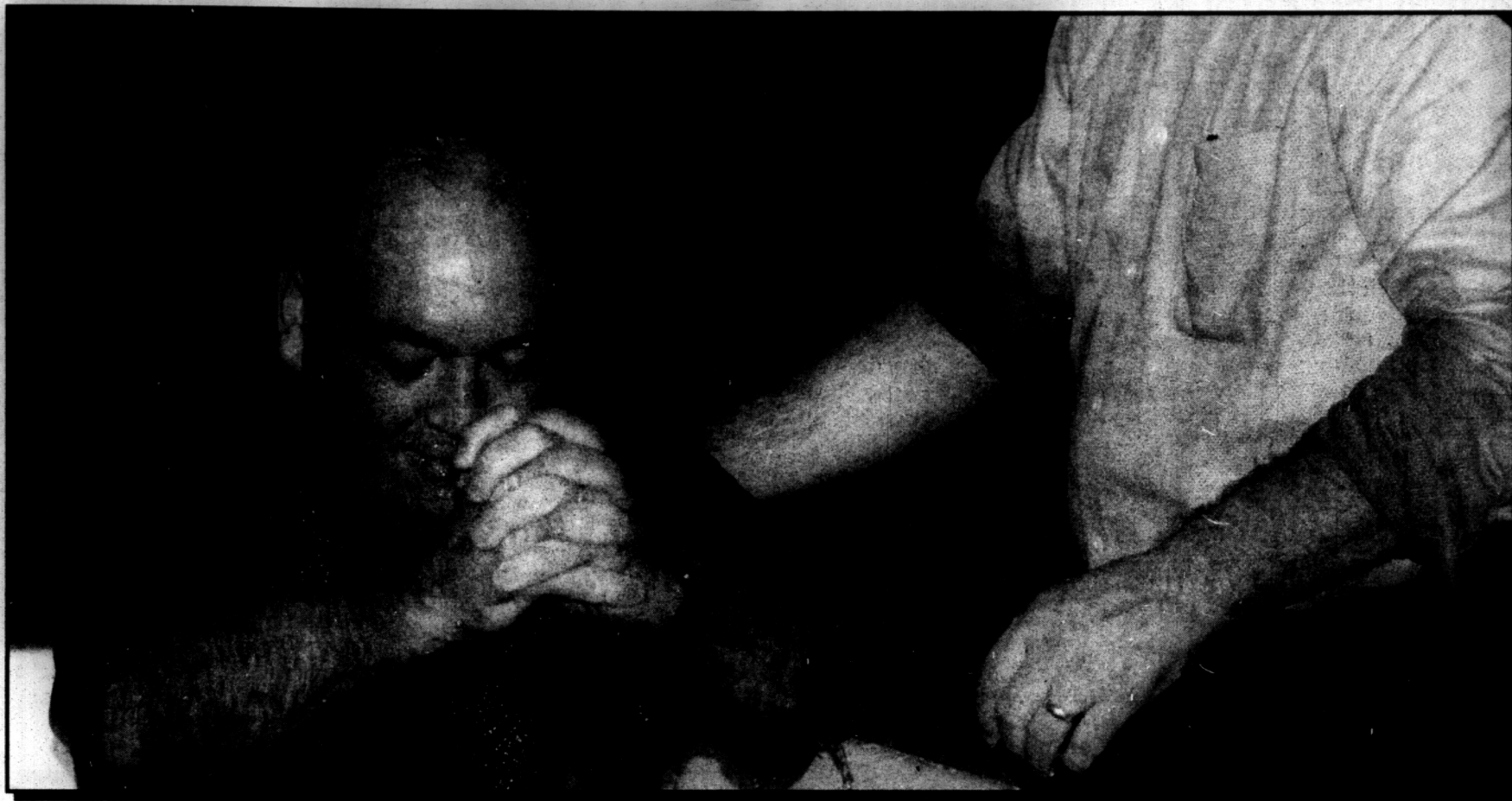
Mississippi College enjoys national recognition by being listed number 25 out of 130 Southern Masters degree-granting universities in the 2005 issue of U.S. News & World Report, and for the last 12 years being named to the Honor Roll of Character Building Institutions of the John Templeton Foundations.

Come visit us. I know you will find a university recognized for academic excellence and commitment to the cause of Christ. We genuinely want to serve you, and we look forward to seeing you.

May God bless you as you make this important life decision.



# Horn Lake church baptizes 36 in one service



ANSWER TO PRAYER — Mike Sutton, whose salvation had been the focus of his wife's prayers, was one of 36 people baptized by Pastor Joe Turner of First Church in Horn Lake, in a baptismal service Sept. 25. (BP photo by Tim Ellsworth)

HORN LAKE, Miss. (BP) — For her birthday this year, Terri Sutton got something she's been wanting for a long time. She got to see her husband and father-in-law baptized on the same day.

"It's a wonderful birthday present," Sutton said. "To me, it's the best birthday present I could have."

Sutton's husband Mike and her father-in-law Doug Hussey were two of 36 people baptized in a special service at First Church in Horn Lake on Sept. 25. Those baptized were just a few from the 423 professions of faith the church saw as a result of three nights of the drama presentation *Heaven's Gates and Hell's Flames*.

"This is just a movement of God," said Pastor Joe Turner, president-elect of the Mississippi Baptist Pastor's Conference. "Jesus said in John 12:32, 'If I be lifted up, I'll draw all men unto me,' and what we've been doing is lifting up Jesus. That's what's doing it."

The church was originally hoping to baptize 100 people in an outdoor service. But weather moved the service inside, and Turner said weather may have been a factor in fewer people showing up for the baptism than expected.

"We don't have any control over that," Turner said.

The drama, presented by Reality Outreach Ministries,

ran September 18-21, and was packed every night. It was so successful that the church extended it for another three nights the following week.

In addition to the 423 professions of faith, 171 people rededicated their lives to Christ during the services.

Sutton said she had been trying to get her father-in-law to come to church for a long time. At her daughter's prompting, she invited him to see the drama and he accepted. Sutton's husband Mike also has been in her prayers.

"He's been sitting on the fence," Sutton said about her husband. "If I had to get a lasso and rope him over to the other side I was going to. I wasn't going to let him stay on the fence."

Phil Anderson, the church's minister of education, outreach and assimilation, credited a healthy prayer effort with the drama's success. The church also blanketed the community with 20,000 tickets for the drama.

"We've just been on our knees before God and asking God to do something," Anderson said. "We just told God we wanted lives changed."

Since many of those who made professions of faith came from other churches, Turner said he hopes First Church can retain about 50% of the total number as members. First Church will follow up with the new believers by assigning them to a Sunday School class where teachers, deacons, and the ministerial staff will work to get them plugged into the church. The church typically runs about 425-450 in Sunday School.

"We prayed before the drama came for a transformation, where pastor, staff, church would never be the same again," Turner said. "And that's what we got. People are just excited about what God's doing and that He's chosen to work here."

## NOBTS to stay

ATLANTA (BP) — New Orleans Seminary (NOBTS) trustees voted unanimously to keep the seminary in New Orleans during a September 27 meeting at the seminary's temporary administrative offices in the NOBTS North Georgia Campus. Trustees also approved the administration's plans to restore the main campus to normal operation by August 2006. "I am very excited about the passionate commitment of trustees to the city of New Orleans," NOBTS President Chuck Kelley said. "After talking through the [issue], there was absolutely no reservation, no hesitation, that New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is and always will be New Orleans Seminary." The trustee board met September 26-27 in a special called meeting to discuss the damage to the seminary campus and explore options for the future. From the beginning, the meeting took on a hopeful tone. Trustees carefully weighed the question of returning to New Orleans before their vote. In the end, with awareness of the monumental task facing the seminary, the board expressed a firm commitment to return to the city. "We are compelled to rebuild the seminary in New Orleans," said L. Ray Moncrief, trustee chairman. "The seminary was founded there and it's a great opportunity for this seminary to have an impact on the reconstruction of the city and for the cause of Christ."

## Looking back

### 10 years ago

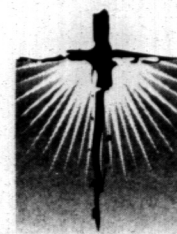
Mississippi Baptists begin stuffing 15,000 hospitality bags as the first phase of their campaign to witness to the thousands of international visitors to Atlanta next summer during the Olympic games.

### 20 years ago

Mississippi Disaster Relief volunteers head for Mexico City, to help in the follow-up of an earthquake which devastated the largest city in the western world.

### 50 years ago

A record 269 students register for the fall semester at Golden Gate Seminary in Berkeley, Calif., according to Jack W. Manning, registrar.



MISSISSIPPI  
BAPTISTS

THE SECOND  
FRONT PAGE

PUBLISHED SINCE 1877

OCTOBER 6, 2005

VOL. 129

No. 39





**YOU CAN RESPOND  
RIGHT NOW!**

*Simply share the following prayer  
with God in your own words:*

1. Lord, I admit that I need you.  
(*I have sinned.*)
2. I want forgiveness for my  
sins and freedom from eter-  
nal death. (*I repent.*)
3. I believe Jesus died and  
rose from the grave to forgive  
my sins and to restore my  
relationship with you.  
(*I believe in Jesus.*)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus  
Christ into my life. From this  
time on, I want to live in a  
loving relationship with Him.  
(*I receive Christ as my Savior  
and Lord.*)

*"But as many as received him,  
to them he gave the right to  
become children of God, even to  
those who believe in his name."  
(John 1:12)*

*If you make a decision for  
Jesus Christ today, contact a  
local Baptist church for spiri-  
tual guidance.*

## I HAVE BEEN TO THE MOUNTAIN

I suppose that most folks have an interest in and are intrigued by mountains — me too! Whether viewing them from a distance as they rise up to touch the sky or being in the midst of them and enjoying the glittering streams that flow down their sides into the valley, there seems to be something mysterious and mystical that pulls us to them and does our hearts good. The mountains seem to provide a sense of strength and serenity, all at the same time. I guess that is why all around the world when it comes time to get away or to take a vacation and find relaxation, people like to head off to the mountains.

Through the years I have been to many of the mountains across our land from the beautiful Smoky Mountains in the east to the Rocky Mountains in the west to the pleasant rolling mountains of the Ozarks. I have enjoyed them and have found refreshment from them simply by being in their majestic presence. I have been to Lookout Mountain and tried to see the seven states from that vantage point. I have been on top of Mount McKinley, the highest point east of the Mississippi. I have been up Pike's Peak and enjoyed the vista that seems to have no end and now I have been to THE Mountain. As a schoolboy, I had learned about it as an answer to a test question. I had read some of the stats about it. I had passed by it dozens of times, but I had never been up on top of the highest point in Mississippi, Woodall Mountain. Nestled in the north-east corner of Mississippi just



**Jim Futral**, executive director-treasurer  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

on the south side of Iuka, Woodall Mountain is no Mount Everest, Mount Hood, or Mount McKinley. In fact, in the minds of most folks I suppose it is no mountain at all. There she stands, all 806 feet of her above sea level waiting to be scaled, and so I drove up to the top on a narrow, gravel road.

While it is true that we may have some buildings in our state that are taller than Woodall Mountain, still there is something inspiring, something awesome about being on top of a mountain that buildings do not provide. While some people in mountainous states may chuckle at our mountain, if you go there with a sense of expectation and a whole lot of imagination you can make this big pile of dirt seem to be a mountain. So I made the trip up to the top of the mountain, tried as best I could to look through the trees to the south, to the north, to the east, to the west, and then made my way back down from its peak.

While there and following, I reflected on some of the verses in Scripture and some of the personal experiences in the life of Jesus that were connected to mountains. I thought about Moses when he went up on the mountain and David's words in the Psalms, "I will lift up mine eyes to the hills from when cometh my help; my

help cometh from the Lord." I recalled those repeated moments in Jesus' life that were mountaintop moments. During the temptations, the devil took Jesus up on a mountain to show Him all of the grandeur that could be His. It seems as though that place called the Mount of Olives was a favorite place of prayer, meditation, and rest for our Lord. It may not have been much bigger than Woodall Mountain.

Then there was the mountain, a hill to which Jesus took His disciples, Peter, James, and John. Before their eyes Jesus was gloriously and magnificently transfigured. What a day that must have been! Then there was that place just outside of Jerusalem, a ragged, rugged hilly place that they called The Place of the Skull, Golgotha. We know it as Mount Calvary where Jesus, the sinless Son of God, died taking our sins upon Himself and paying our debt in full.

Come back to Woodall Mountain with me for a moment. While on top of the mountain I met a couple from the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Like me, they had come to the mountain's peak mainly out of curiosity, and as I looked southward I asked the couple if they were able to see the Coast from up here. They laughed and said no,

they were not even sure that you could see the next county. As I scanned the horizon unable to see about 300 miles to the Coast, or 100 miles to the Mississippi River, or even fewer indistinguishable miles to the Tennessee or Alabama lines, I thought about all of the people who live in this great state called Mississippi with its skinny mountain called Woodall. I thought about the thousands who need Jesus and what great opportunities God has given us coupled with tremendous responsibilities to see that they hear the Good News that Jesus loves them, died for them, and lives today to give them life. Then I thought about that day when Jesus stood with a broken heart and looked out over Jerusalem. He loved them and desired to save them but felt their unconcern and their deep rejection of Him.

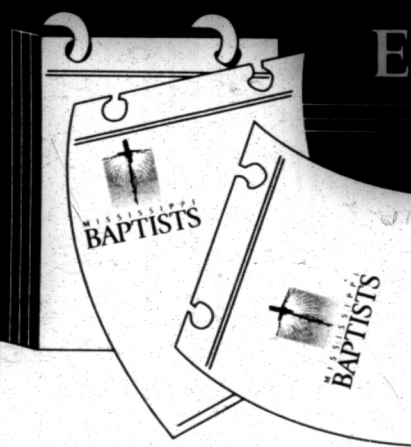
I felt His presence on Woodall Mountain as I sought to see our state through His eyes. I sought to look not through political, economic, racial, or ethnic eyes. For just a moment I wanted a glimpse of our state not through educational eyes, philosophical eyes, or athletic eyes, but just eyes that see people in need of a glorious encounter with a living God in Jesus Christ. The bad news is that there are hundreds of thousands of people who do not know our precious Savior. The good news is that many of them live right near your church and mine, and if we will get up and go after them, they can be reached. The opportunity is before us, the time is right, and we are the people who can do it.

*The author may be contacted at  
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# Directions



## EVENT STATUS UPDATES



*The following list contains  
updated information on events.  
More events will be added to  
this list as soon as the informa-  
tion becomes available.*

• **Church Library  
Ministry Conference**  
Communication Services  
First Baptist Church,  
Brookhaven  
Oct. 7-8  
**Cancelled**

• **RA Day**  
Men's Ministry,  
Mississippi College  
Oct. 8, **Cancelled**

• **State Literacy  
Missions Workshop**  
Woman's Missionary Union  
Camp Garaywa, Oct. 13-15,  
**Postponed; rescheduled as  
three separate events  
on Oct. 13-Oct. 15,  
Oct. 14-Oct. 15,  
and Nov. 3-Nov. 5, 2005.**

• **Flake's Formula for  
the Future - Biloxi**  
Sunday School  
First Baptist Church, Biloxi  
Oct. 21-22, **Cancelled**

• **Missions Mobilization  
Celebration Banquet**  
Missions Mobilization  
First Baptist Church, Jackson  
Nov. 11, **Cancelled**

• **Missions Mobilization  
Conferences**  
Missions Mobilization  
Baptist Building Skyroom,  
Jackson, Nov. 12, **Cancelled**

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What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

# HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

October 6, 2005

HouseTops is a **Baptist Record** supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's **Communication Services**.

## FLAKE'S FORMULA FOR THE FUTURE

*Building an Acts 1:8 Sunday School through Bible Study*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR ALL GROUPS**

Each location will have the following training: Younger Preschool, Older Preschool, Younger Children, Middle Children, Older Children, Younger Youth, Older Youth, Younger Adult, Middle Adult, Older Adult, General Officers, and Pastors

October 21-22, 2005

8:00 a.m., 21st – 8:30-noon, 22nd

**First Baptist Church**

**Biloxi, Mississippi**

### SPECIAL GUEST: KEN MARLER

Marler serves as Sunday School Growth Specialist for the Tennessee Baptist Convention. While serving at LifeWay Church Resources he authored How to Plan and Conduct Multiple Sunday Schools. Rev. Marler has authored Sunday School Growth Points while at the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

For more info, contact the Sunday School Department at 1-800-748-1651 or 601-292-3291.

## Mississippi Baptist Churches Asked to Display White Crosses January 14-22, 2006

The Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention encourages churches all over the state to demonstrate their support of pro-life issues by being part of a special effort. The 33rd anniversary of the historic Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion on demand will be on January 22, 2006.

Churches are being asked to display white crosses on their lawns during the week leading up to that date as a visible means of showing their support of the pro-life stance. For specific suggestions as to how your congregation could join in this important endeavor, please contact the Christian Action Commission at 601-292-3329.



MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST

## Ministers' Wives Conference



**Monday, October 31, 2005**  
**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, JACKSON**  
(Fifth Floor)  
1:15 to 4:45 p.m.



### Judy Gordon

National, state and local speaker  
English teacher and wife of Keith Gordon,  
consultant, MBCB Pastor/Leadership  
Development department



### Patsy B. Sheffield

Former MBCB ministry assistant  
Pastor's wife (twice)  
Married to Forrest Sheffield, pastor of  
Harrisburg Baptist Church, Tupelo, Miss.



### Lori Schuler

Worship leader, soloist and songwriter  
Past minister of music in several Mississippi  
churches  
Wife of Bennon

### AGENDA

- 1:15 p.m. Registration: Fifth Floor of FBC, Jackson
- 1:30 Welcome, Introductions and Fellowship Greeting: Shirley Futral
- 2:00 Musical Inspiration: Lori Schuler
- 2:15 Judy Gordon
- 3:15 Fellowship
- 3:30 Musical Inspiration: Lori Schuler
- 3:45 Patsy Sheffield
- 4:30 Musical Closing: Lori Schuler
- 4:45 Adjourn

## REGISTRATION

Preregistration is encouraged so that we may better prepare. You may register in one of the following ways:

Mail: Return the form below to:

Pastor/Leadership Development Department/MBCB

PO Box 530

Jackson MS 39205-0530

Phone: 800.748.1651, ext. 305; 601.292.3305

E-mail: [kmcdonnell@mbcb.org](mailto:kmcdonnell@mbcb.org)

Fax: 601.714.7426

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (h) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

For more info:  
Contact Kay McDonnell  
1-800-748-1651, ext. 305 or  
601-292-3305



## Mississippi Baptist Symphony Orchestra in Worship

**October 16**  
**Colonial Heights BC, Ridgeland**  
**6:30 p.m.**



Call the MBCB Church Music Dept.  
for more info: 601-292-3266

## GA Missions Madness

*Hurricanes, Tornadoes,  
Floods, Oh My!*

Learn about Disaster Relief efforts in our state  
and the world! Hear from a missionary about  
living through a tsunami!

**Saturday, November 12**

**Copiah-Lincoln Community College • 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

Registration begins at 8 a.m. Early registration deadline is October 29.  
Cost \$8 per person (after deadline \$10 per person if space is available).  
Confirmation, directions and additional information will be mailed upon  
receipt of registration.

For more info: Call the WMU at 1-800-748-1651 or 601-292-3316,  
or for registration info go to  
[www.mbc.org/wmu/calendar](http://www.mbc.org/wmu/calendar).



Mississippi Baptist Youth Evangelism Conference

**A.E. WOOD COLISEUM**  
**MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE, CLINTON**  
**DECEMBER 29-30, 2005**

Registration begins at 1 p.m.  
First session starts at 2:30 p.m.  
Concludes Friday at 4 p.m.



# PRAY

When a believing person prays, great  
things happen!

**James 5:16**

Harvey Ellis at 601-292-3316

**DOCTRINE  
REVIEWS**

**TO EVIL**

**Williams**

**to attend!**

**Church**

**2006**

**Church**

**2006**

**Church**

**2006**

Preregistration is requested. All pre-  
views are from 9 a.m.-noon. The cost  
is \$10, which includes brunch and a  
copy of the study course book.

For more information, contact Don  
Hicks at 1-800-748-1651  
or 601-292-3287.



## DO NOT REGISTER FOR THE GLOBAL IMPACT CONFERENCE!

Due to an oversight,  
the Global Impact  
Conference, sponsored by the  
Missions Mobilization  
Department, was promoted last  
week in this publication.

Unfortunately, the conference has  
been cancelled. We apologize for  
any confusion or inconvenience.



# ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MISSION EDUCATION FOR PRESCHOOLERS?

Preschool Missions Education Leadership Training  
October 22, 2005 • 9 a.m.-noon  
Camp Garaywa, Clinton • Cost: \$6

If you need assistance in starting or just want to add some enthusiasm and excitement to preschoolers and missions, please join us at this special training opportunity and learn more about how to use the Mission Friends Curriculum for 2005-2006. You can register by completing the form below. If you have additional questions, please contact Kathy Burns at the wMu office at 601-292-3324 or by E-mail at [kburns@mbcb.org](mailto:kburns@mbcb.org).

## PERSON MAKING LUNCH RESRVATIONS

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Church \_\_\_\_\_ Association \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ lunch reservations at \$6 per person.

Make check payable to Camp Garaywa (for PMELT lunch). Mail check along with completed form to: Preschool Missions Education Leadership Training, Camp Garaywa, 312 Camp Garaywa Road, Clinton MS 39056.

## State Literacy Missions Workshop Rescheduled

The State Literacy Missions Workshop scheduled for October 13-15 at Camp Garaywa has been rescheduled due to Hurricane Katrina.

### NEW Schedule and Contact Information

#### ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

WHERE: FBC, Jackson

WHEN: Friday, October 14, 2-9 p.m.

Saturday, October 15, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

COST: \$25 (includes newly published manual and meals)

WORKSHOP LEADERS: Martha Stockstill & Retha Mayfield

DEADLINE DATE TO REGISTER: October 10

CONTACT PERSON: Lisa Miller, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

1-800-748-1651, ext. 317, or 601-968-3800 • [lmiller@mbcb.org](mailto:lmiller@mbcb.org)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MBCB ("Literacy Workshop" in memo line)

#### ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

WHERE: Lee Baptist Association, 2508 South Gloster, Tupelo

WHEN: Thursday, November 3, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Friday, November 4, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 5, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

COST: \$25 (includes newly published manual and meals)

WORKSHOP LEADER: Cindy Heimbach

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: October 20

CONTACT PERSON: Tammy Howard, P.O. Box 2640, Tupelo, MS 38803

662-566-1700 • [lcba@lwol.com](mailto:lcba@lwol.com)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Lee Baptist Association

#### ADULT READING AND WRITING (ARW)

WHERE: Parkview Baptist Church, 712 McAlister Street, Greenville

WHEN: Thursday, October 13, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Friday, October 14, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 15, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

COST: \$25

WORKSHOP LEADER: Joan Scott

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: October 10

CONTACT PERSON: Ken West, 1431 S. Colorado, Greenville, MS 38704

662-335-2862 • [wcba@tecinfo.com](mailto:wcba@tecinfo.com)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Washington Baptist Association



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A Fulfilling Marriage?  
True Success and Significance?  
More Family Time?  
Meaningful Communication?  
Equipping Kids to Choose the  
Best?

**NO  
LIMITS.**  
Set your  
family on  
the right  
course!

## MARRIAGE MAKEOVER

Feb. 17-18, 2006

Ridgecrest BC, Madison

Cost: \$25

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER: JERRY PIPES

Author of "Family to Family" and  
"Building a Successful Family"

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Also on Blended Marriages

Contact Glenn at [gshows@mbcb.org](mailto:gshows@mbcb.org)  
or 1-800-748-1651



Pray this day for...

October 7-27, 2005

*"The only way to learn to pray is to pray."  
- Samuel Chadwick*

For: (1) Piano/Organ/Keyboard Workshop, FBC, Clinton, 8 p.m., 7th-2 p.m., 8th (CM); (2) Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende of the Netherlands.

For: (1) World Hunger Day (WMU & CAC Emphasis); (2) Clinton Brock, Havana, Fla., works as a MSC missionary assigned to the Gadsden Association strategy team. Pray for the association, disaster relief team being mobilized, and a needed church plant in the association.

Since October of 2000, the Ministry of Prayer and Evangelism-Reconciliation has sought a multiplication of churches in Panama City. Ask God to call pastors and church leaders to greater vision, to prayerful compassion of those who don't know Jesus.

A 90-day, worldwide prayer effort on behalf of Saudi Arabs will continue through October 27. Pray that God would appear to the local people in dreams and visions. "I will pour out my Spirit on all people ... your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions" (Joel 2:38).

For: (1) Church Recreation Training Fellowship, FBC, Madison, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. (D&FM); (2) Vince and Fawn, Donaldson, Ark., are MSC missionaries ministering to truck drivers and travelers at Travelers Chapel, in Malvern, Ark. Pray for more than 4 million truck drivers in this country who need salvation.

Intercede for a young Hindu girl, A., who has grown up in a Hindu temple in a megacity in Indonesia. She has encountered people who love her with the love of the Father. All she knows is the Hindu faith; however, she is quite keen on the ways of believers. Pray for those who are engaging her with Truth.

Recently approximately 100 schools for the deaf received a copy of the JESUS film in Colombian sign language. The response has been extremely positive. Pray specifically for one school that recently wrote, "Please help us evangelize our students."

For: (1) Mississippi Baptist College Day (MBCB Emphasis); (2) Thank you for praying for the students and professors in the new masters degree program at Uganda Baptist Seminary. Pray that each student will utilize their education to lead others to know Christ in a personal way.

Pray for Somalis in the U.K. who are interested in studying God's Word, and for that interest to grow each time the Scriptures are opened; for the spiritual climate to change as Baptist representatives walk the Somali neighborhoods; and for God to be glorified through new Somali believers.

An international worker reported even though Rajasthani Muslims of India want to learn the truth, a major barrier is the "Sonship of Jesus Christ" issue. After reading Scripture, they still struggle. Pray they will comprehend that Jesus is God and He made the ultimate sacrifice so they could have eternal life.

The Kanto Megacities Team of Japan writes: "Praise God for many recent salvation decisions. These new believers include a child, a young couple, 60-plus Japanese reached through a volunteer team, and 100 children led to Christ by one couple. Pray God will provide workers to disciple them.

Karin Hogrefe is a college minister in Boston working with the collegiate church planting community on the campus of Northeastern University. There are 12 colleges and more than 30,000 students with no evangelical church. Pray for a team to plant a church in the Fenway area.

Wassulu Team members of Mali and Guinea covet your prayers for the chief of the village where they live. "He is so close to the truth, but with the pressures of his culture and position, he is not ready to follow Christ. We desire to see him believe because it would mean so much to his people."

"Why are you carrying your Bible?" asked a Chinese waiter. When the believer responded she planned to study it that morning, he asked, "Do you read it every day?" She took the opportunity to share the Gospel. Praise God for continuously opening doors of witness in China.

For: (1) GA Mother/Daughter Overnight, Camp Garaywa, Clinton, 21st-22nd (WMU); (2) As plans get underway for the construction of the prayer garden at the International Prayer Center of Jerusalem, pray that God would send His volunteers to see the work come to completion.

The Dinka Team of Southern Sudan asks you to pray for journeymen James and Ryan who joined the team and are studying the language and culture. There will be real "life adjustment" this year as they move to the bush, where they'll be involved in research for future church-planting efforts.

Pray for believers seeking to reach the 30 million people of Central Java who do not have faith in our Lord. Pray for "persons of peace" (Luke 10:6) to be found and come to faith, and for groups to be formed for discipleship and growth.

Ask God to prepare the hearts of the 42,000 Koti people living in Mozambique to hear and respond to the gospel. In one city, a Baptist church is located in a Koti neighborhood. Pray for the church members to feel burdened for their Muslim neighbors and to share the Good News effectively.

For: (1) MBCB Executive Committee Meeting, Baptist Building, 10 a.m.; (2) Pray for safety, good health, wisdom and discernment as teams from Germany work with local believers and Southern Baptists to provide medical care and food for those suffering from the current famine in Niger.

The Jola-Fogny Team of Senegal and the Gambia covets your ongoing intercession for dentists and eye doctors to respond to God's call to serve among the Jola-Fogny in January and February 2006 as part of a volunteer dental/eye team.

Karen Davis, Aberdeen, S.D., is a church strengthener working with 19 churches in the Heartland Association. Pray for Anglo and Native American churches with Sunday School and Bible studies at Fairview Baptist Church.

## 2006 State Evangelism Conference January 23-24, 2006 Fairview Baptist Church, Columbus

**"Pray Over Columbus" (for everyone)  
9 a.m. • January 23**

The MBCB Women's Visionary Team, and the wMu directors and women's ministry leaders of Area 2 and Area 4 invite everyone to participate in this special prayer effort before the State Evangelism Conference begins.

**Ministers' Spouses Lunch (just for the ladies)  
"No One Can Fill Your Shoes ... Walking Worthby of HIS Calling"**

**Ephesians 4:1-3  
11:30 a.m. • January 23**

Ladies, be sure to bring your pastor's wife to this lunch planned especially for them. Special guests will Page Hughes, keynote speaker, and Janet Rayford, music.

Page Hughes  
Anchor Ministries



Janet Rayford  
Crestwood New Life BC, Jackson



More information to come in November and December.

## ACTS 1:8 Lay Missions Conference and Banquet

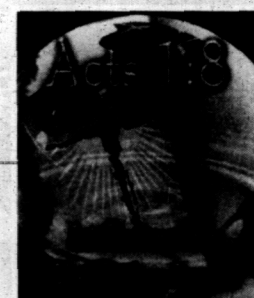
**First Baptist Church, Jackson  
October 31, 2005**

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

**Interest Conferences - 3 p.m.**  
Agricultural Missions  
Educational Missions  
Volunteers in Missions  
Construction Missions  
Campers on Mission  
Medical Missions  
**Missions Banquet - 5 p.m.**

**Dinner Speaker  
Matt Williams**  
Missionary  
Pacific Rim

**Music  
Bridget Taylor**  
First Baptist Church, Oxford



Sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

### RESERVATION FORM (DEADLINE: OCTOBER 21, 2005)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ dinner reservations at \$9 per person.

Please complete form and mail to: Men's Ministry Department, MBCB, Lay Missions Banquet, PO Box 530, Jackson MS 39205-0530

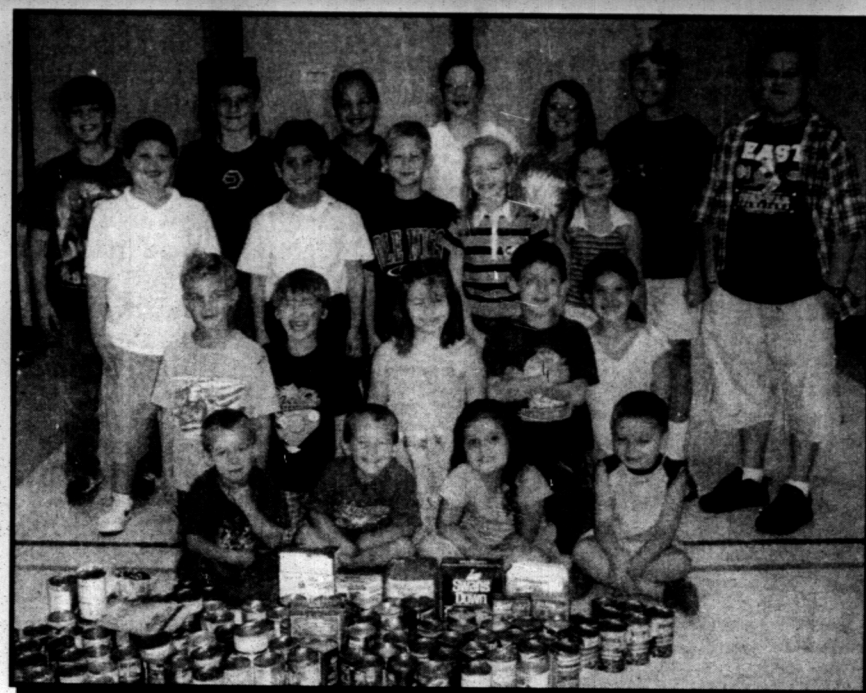
# HOUSE TOPS



## JUST FOR THE RECORD



1. 3rd and 4th Grade Class, Williamsville Church, Kosciusko



2. Food Drive, North Carrollton Church, North Carrollton

1. **Williamsville Church, Kosciusko**, congratulates members of its 3rd and 4th grade class for memorizing their 25 Bible verses as part of a challenge from their Sunday School teacher Kathy Barnes. They received study Bibles for their effort.

2. The RAs, GAs, and Mission Friends of **North Carrollton Church, North Carrollton**, recently held a food drive to replenish the church's food pantry. All food items in the pantry were used to feed hurricane evacuees who came to the church for shelter. Shown are the participants.

3. **Mantee Church, Mantee**, ordained Bill Brand and William Spencer as deacons. Shown are pastor Bo Farrior, Brand, and Spencer.

4. **First Church, Louisville**, is hosting a one-day conference for pastors, Preaching Truth

in a Whatever World Oct. 11, led by Michael Duduit, editor of Preaching magazine. Cost is \$95, and additional persons from the same church may attend for \$50, which includes lunch and all materials. For more information or to register, call (800) 288-9673 or visit the conference website at <http://www.preaching.com/truth>.

5. **Bethany Church, Potts Camp**, will host progressive Southern Gospel singer Kristian Booth Oct. 9 at 6 p.m. Free admission; fellowship following.

6. **Eagle Lake Church, Vicksburg**, will host the New Genesis Southern Gospel music group Oct. 30 at 6 p.m.

7. **Bethesda Church, Terry**, is hosting a fall festival Oct. 29, 4 p.m., including games, cakewalk, toy walk, chili contest, hot dogs, hayride, and costume contests.



3. Deacon Ordination, Mantee Church, Mantee



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### STAFF CHANGES



Ken and Elaine Meadows

**Twin Lakes Church, Horn Lake**, has called Ken and Elaine Meadows as church musicians; Ken is music director and Elaine is the pianist. They had previously served Parkway Church, Hernando. Also, the church has called Bob Hankins as pastor. Hankins had previously served the church as assistant pastor. He and his wife Gail have two children, David and Emily.



Hankins

**Grace Memorial Church, Gulfport**, has called Evan Dickson as minister of student. Dickson comes from Metairie Church, Metairie, La., holds a degree from the University of New Orleans, and is pursuing a Master of Divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary.

**First Church, Calhoun City**, has called Jon Caranna as minister of students and recreation. Caranna and his wife Bobbi come from First Church, Sand Hill, Petal.



Jon and Bobbi Caranna

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1. Meeks and Michael, Blue Mountain College

## REVIVALS &amp; HOMECOMINGS

**Algoma Church, Agoma:** 100th anniversary, Oct. 15-16; Sat., remembrance service, 4 p.m.; meal, 5 p.m.; singing featuring Walk by Faith, 7 p.m.; Sun., worship, 10 a.m., followed by lunch; Kermit McGregor, speaker.

**Center Hill Church, Hamilton:** Revival, Oct. 10; spaghetti supper, 6 p.m.; worship, 7 p.m.; Danny Lanier, speaker.

**Clear Branch Church, Florence:** Homecoming, Oct. 9; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by lunch and afternoon singing; Wayne Van Horn, speaker.

**Clear Branch, Wesson:** Revival, Oct. 9-12; Sun., 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Gene Douglas, speaker; Todd McDaniels, music; Wayne Moak, pastor.

**Courtland Church, Panola Association:** Homecoming, Oct. 16, with morning worship, lunch, and afternoon singing; Charles Locke, pastor.

**Ebenezer Church, Attala Association:** Revival, Oct. 16-19; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Larry Harvey, pastor, speaking Sunday and Monday; Danny Lanier, Tuesday and Wednesday, speaker and music.

**First Church, Oloh:** Homecoming, Oct. 16; worship, 10 a.m., followed by potluck meal; Doug Benedict, speaker; Jeff Coats, music; James Eddie Parker, pastor.

**Holly Springs Church, Foxworth:** Homecoming, Oct. 9; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by dinner on the ground and singing, 1:30 p.m.; Steven DeOrnellas, speaker; Kevin Crozier, pastor.

**Mt. Carmel Church, Edinburg:** Homecoming, Oct. 9, 10:30 a.m., with lunch after worship; Richard Etheridge, Decatur, speaker.

**Mt. Pisgah, Enid:** Homecoming, Oct. 23; music with Flowood Quartet, 10:30 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by noon meal; local singers, 1:30 p.m.; Raymond Jeffcoat, speaker.

**Nola Church, Brookhaven:** 100th anniversary, Oct. 9; reflection service, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by covered dish lunch; Vann Windom, speaker; Hubert Greer, music; Swain Lambert, pianist; Bobby Smith, pastor.

**North Calvary Church, Philadelphia:** Homecoming, Oct. 9; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by lunch; Larry Hill, speaker; Lawrence Runnels, pastor.

**Second Church, Kosciusko:** Homecoming, Oct. 9; Sunday School, 9:45; worship, 11 a.m., followed by covered dish lunch, singing, and praise service; Johnny Parks, speaker; Donald Self, pastor.

**Shelton Church, Moselle:** Homecoming / 98th Anniversary, Oct. 9; worship, 10 a.m., followed by dinner on the ground.

**Siloam Church, West Point:** Homecoming, Oct. 9, 10:45 a.m., followed by dinner on the grounds; David Bishop, speaker; David Myers, music.

**Sunrise Church, Leake County:** Revival, Oct. 9-12, 7 p.m.; Gary Jackson, speaker; Randy Cuchens, music; David Addy, pastor.

1. **Blue Mountain College** observed Constitution Day commemorating the signing of the United States Constitution on September 17, 1787. Ronald D. Michael, a Booneville attorney and member of East Booneville Church, addressed the BMC students on the origin, value, and benefits of the Constitution for the nation and for individuals. Pictured with Michael (right) is Ronald Meeks (left), coordinator of the weekly student assemblies.

2. The **William Carey College Theatre** will present *Not Waving by Gen LeRoy* October 27 through 29 at 7 p.m. in the O. L. Quave Theatre located on the ground floor of Tatum Court. The play is directed by chair of the department of theatre and communication Charles Bosworth of Wiggins. Seats for performances may be reserved by calling (601) 318-6221. The box office is open daily from 1 until 4 p.m. beginning Oct. 24. Regular admission is \$10, senior citizens and military personnel admission is \$8, while the cost for students is \$5.

3. **William Carey College's** Baptist Student Union met around the flagpole Sept. 21 for *See You at the Pole*. The BSU is helping students displaced from the coast and New Orleans campus become acclimated to their new home. Shown are some of the participants.

4. **Mississippi College** alumni and friends are invited to

attend Homecoming Weekend, October 21-22. Friday night activities include various class reunions, Follies in Swor Auditorium, and a bonfire pep-rally for students, alumni and friends. Saturday morning is packed with activities including Social Tribe breakfast teas, reunion class meetings, the Homecoming Honors Luncheon, and the new We are Family tailgate. This year, the Homecoming Parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. MC will play Texas Lutheran at 2:00 pm on

Saturday, and the Homecoming Court will be presented at half-time. There will be a fish fry for the reunion classes of 1975 through 2000 Saturday night on campus and the annual Evening of Blues and Gold for young alumni at the 930 Blues Café in downtown Jackson. For a complete schedule, more information, and to register, visit the Homecoming website <http://www.mc.edu/alumni/homecoming/index.php> or call the Alumni office at (601) 925-3257.



3. See You at the Pole, William Carey College

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**DISCOUNT BAPTISTRIES & STEEPLES**. Baptist murals, heaters, lighting, seating, wall crosses, pew cushions, kringlas, carpet, signs. Church Supply Company of Texas, (800) 728-8291.

**HUMORIST/AUTHOR ARLIS NICHOLS**, Enterprise, Mississippi. Regrettably, I have lost telephone service due to Katrina. Please call my cell phone at (601) 938-9754 for G-rated humor that honors Christ and motivates believers. Proverbs 17:22.

**SEBREN'S SIDING, JACKSON, CHRISTIAN OWNED**. All home improvements, vinyl siding, windows, metal and shingle roofs, patio covers, screen and glass rooms. (601) 992-2092, Don & Rita Sebren, owners.

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**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MT. OLIVE** is now accepting resumes for a full-time minister of music. Please submit resumes to FBC, Mt. Olive, attn: search committee, 3200 Mt. Olive Rd., Mt. Olive, AL 35117.

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**TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH, AURORA, COLORADO** seeks applicants for senior pastor. Baptist seminary graduate, minimum three years senior pastor experience. Send resume to pastor search team, Trinity Baptist Church, 15555 East Quincy Avenue, Aurora, Colorado 80015.

**SENIOR PASTOR: FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, ROGERSVILLE, ALABAMA** is seeking a full-time pastor. If you feel God leading you to send your resume, please send to pastor search committee, 222 College Street, Rogersville, AL 35652 or email [esmmason@netzero.net](mailto:esmmason@netzero.net).

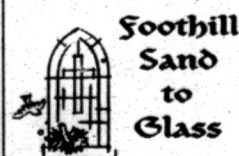
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## MS POSITIONS

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# FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

## Being Holy in an Unholy World

Ephesians 1:18-2:10

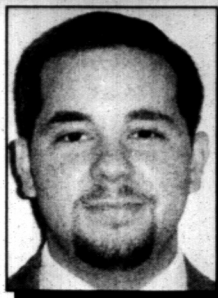
By Kevin Ivy

People in the world today are spiritually hungry like never before. Sadly, many of them turn on Oprah or turn to false religions in order to get spiritual guidance. They haven't come to realize that their needs can be met only through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Jesus is the only answer for this spiritually hungry world. To help us understand our need for Christ, we should regularly reflect on the consequences of life without Christ. In 2 Corinthians 13:5 we are commanded to examine ourselves as to whether we are in the faith. Paul helps us examine our spiritual condition in his letter to the Ephesians. In Ephesians 1:18-23, Paul prayed that believers might know and experience the power of God in the resurrected Christ. In chapter 2:1-3, he profiled life

without Christ, reminding us that every person without Christ is spiritually dead and needs salvation. Finally in Ephesians 2:4-10 he profiled life with Christ reminding us that, in Christ, God provided a way for all people to be saved and live according to His plan.

As we consider these truths from Ephesians, it should cause us to examine ourselves and ask, "How can I be confident that I am part of God's holy people?" Do you know for sure that you are saved and in a real relationship with Christ? If not, you can be sure today. You can know that you are one of God's holy people.

The Apostle Paul gave his testimony to King Agrippa in Acts 26:20. He said, "I declared first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of Judea, and then to



Ivy

the Gentiles, that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance." Paul declared through his ministry three things that must take place in one's heart and life in order for them to be born again and become a part of God's holy people. You can take these three steps in your own life and be saved today.

### I. Turn

Paul testified, "that they should repent." Repentance is turning from sin. Multitudes have walked a church aisle and repeated a prayer, without ever turning from their old life of sin. They walk the aisle but fail to repent and leave their sin at the altar. Jesus said, in Luke 13:3, "Except you repent, you will all likewise perish." If you have not repented, you have not been saved.

### II. Trust

Next Paul said that we must "turn to God" or trust Christ by

placing our faith in Him. Ephesians 2:8 says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God." Repentance and faith are inseparably linked. They are like opposite sides of the same coin. You can't have true faith without true repentance and vice versa. Many people have placed their faith in a sinner's prayer, a baptism, a church membership, or their good works, but faith in anything other than Jesus Christ, is a misplaced faith and will not save. Saving faith is a repentant faith in Christ alone.

### III. Transform

Not only must we turn and trust, but we must experience transformation as well. Paul said, "do works befitting repentance." Those who have truly turned from their sin and trusted Christ will experience a transformation. They will do good works. It has been said that we are saved by faith alone, but a faith that saves is never alone. Good works always accompany saving

faith. James 2:26 reminds us that, "faith without works is dead." Salvation will always bring forth a transformation, for "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" (2 Cor 5:17).

Are you a part of God's holy people? Have you experienced the power of God Paul wrote of in Ephesians 1:18-23? Do you identify with Paul's profile of those without Christ in Ephesians 2:1-3? Have you examined yourself using Paul's profile of life in Christ from Ephesians 2:4-10? Have you examined yourself as to whether you are in the faith? Are you absolutely sure that you have been born again and made a part of God's holy people? If not, Christ can change your life and bring you into a personal, ongoing relationship with Him from this day forward if only you will turn from your sin, trust Christ, and experience His transforming power in your life today.

Ivy is a pastor of Fairfield Church, Moselle.

## EXPLORE THE BIBLE

### "Do You Have Peace With God?"

Romans 5:1-11

By Betty Davis

Peace. It's what we want for our country, our homes and our lives. In today's busy world, peace seems to be an illusion. Like a mirage, it seems real but we can't quite reach it. It's not something tangible we can put our hands on, but it IS real, and it CAN be obtained.

Paul used the word "peace" as part of his greeting in his letter to the Romans (1:7). Possibly, Paul desired the absence of conflict and the quality of unity to be in their personal lives and in their church fellowship. Perhaps, he recalled Isaiah 54:13, "And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children."

At times, I'm like Mary AND Martha of Bethany. I love to cook, clean house, wash clothes, and prepare meals for special friends

in our home. At other times, I love to read and study what God has to say to me through His Word. I need to be sure that the most important time of my day is spent at Jesus' feet. Working, cleaning and preparing are not exactly peaceful. Real peace comes when I praise and worship God with my whole heart. Colossians 3:15 says, "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful."

### 1. SALVATION BRINGS PEACE, (Romans 5:1-2a)

When we trust Jesus Christ as our Savior, we receive eternal life, and we also notice a wonderful calm in our lives. Non-Christians do not experience that calmness of inner peace.



Davis

Paul had already written in his letter the need for salvation. In chapter 5, he begins with "Therefore", much like we might say, "so..." to continue with a shift of thought. Now that they understood salvation, Paul wanted the people to realize that they could approach God by faith and receive His gift of peace.

Faith is the basic Christian experience that leads a person to have a close relationship with Jesus Christ. That closeness with Christ brings a calm feeling (peace) that allows us to deal with each daily situation we encounter. As Christians, we have comforting peace with God and we're secure in His grace.

### 2. PEACE BRINGS REJOICING, (Romans 5:2b-5)

A lot of things bring happiness into our lives. That's good, but God also wants us to rejoice when we have every day problems. Paul explained that trials help us to acquire endurance.

When we can withstand daily problems, our character is enhanced and we receive hope.

God's plan for us included a spiritual help in the person of the Holy Spirit. First Corinthians 2:12 sums up our gift of the Holy Spirit. "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit." Christians show they are secure when they rejoice in their present circumstances, even in the face of difficulties. And, they can rejoice about the future when they will be with God in heaven. Smiling makes everyone around you happier and know that you have peace with God.

### 3. REJOICING BRINGS SECURITY, (Romans 5:6-11)

Would you consider dying for another person? If so, would you choose someone who is morally good? Jesus Christ died for the ungodly; for all are sinners. His death for us is proof of God's love for all mankind. Paul was quite clear about the whole process in his letter to the

Romans. As believers we can enjoy God's grace. What a peaceful thought! Being reconciled (having all barriers removed toward God) we have much to be happy about. And, there is another reason to rejoice. We can rejoice through Jesus Christ whom we have received restored fellowship. We are secure in God's love. He loves the people he created because God is love.

Christians have security through the death of Christ and minus God's wrath they are the recipients of God's amazing and wonderful love. That gives us even more reason to rejoice.

Let me share what Mrs. Billy Graham wrote in one of her books: "When we settle things with God, peace comes."

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" — John 14:27.

Do you have peace with God?

Davis is a member of First Church, McComb.

## Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted.



Photograph attachments are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts

are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted.

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to crop-

ping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis. Requests to return photographs must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.



# Analysis: When people are fed, witness grows

By David Alexander, consultant  
MBCB Church Growth Dept.



Alexander

Two days after Hurricane Katrina hit our neighborhood, my wife and I were faced with a terrible reality. The lack of electricity had finally taken its toll on the food in our warm refrigerator, and we were forced to throw out the few left-over items therein. Although piling in comparison to the loss and discomfort suffered by residents of our coastline, the simple act of having no choice but to discard the food raised momentary personal awareness of a much greater issue.

What some deem as tragedy, God orchestrates as momentary opportunities for specific ministries. As if by some divine intervention, because coincidences do not exist, I find myself writing this article on the eve of departing to aid in the disaster relief effort. Already, more than three million meals have been prepared by Southern Baptists alone for those, rich and poor, who find themselves unable to acquire food at this moment. Even though by God's grace, this problem will find resolution, there are those in other parts of North America and the world that will continue to need our aid for days to come.

According to recent stats, one in ten American households is unable to afford enough food to meet basic needs. Around the world, over 25,000 people die each day due to hunger related causes. That translates to several people in the time it took me to realize that I would be dining on cold canned green beans and then grimace about it.

October 9 will be observed as World Hunger Day in churches across the Southern Baptist Convention. While some organizations use ministry opportunities only to provide social help and immediate relief, Southern Baptists, through gifts to the World Hunger and Relief fund, seize the opportunity to provide strategic eternal impact.



Creatively using the funds to impact personal hunger and suffering, those ministering to the people in need also use the moment to attend to the person's spiritual hunger. Open doors to the Gospel are common results from satisfied physical needs. Last

year, because of world hunger relief efforts, millions were fed and over 58,000 people, in America alone committed their life to Christ, resulting in 17 church starts. Internationally, even greater numbers were ministered to and have received Christ, resulting in church planting movements. Tsunami relief results may never be fully appreciated in regard to the numbers eternally impacted by Southern Baptists gifts.

The Lord tells us in Isaiah 58:7-11 that He can use our ministry to the hungry to do away with the yoke of oppression. This means that while we meet their physical needs, God also grants them a heightened awareness of their spiritual need. His promise to bless us as a result is just a bonus.

Any investment that results in self-perpetuation is highly sought after. A ministry that results in a new church has guaranteed for itself a long-term provision for its needs, because now, the new indigenous body of believers will continue to show Christ's love long after the volunteers have returned home. As I depart for disaster relief work, I share our missionaries' agenda, to minister to the personal need creating then an opportunity to share Christ and form a new church where the new Christian can worship the Lord and continue to minister long after I return home. Because of God's blessing and its wise administration, your gift and mine to the World Hunger Fund is not just a necessary gift, but an awesome eternal investment.

## Bibliocipher

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OBQ FURJ GUOYY ZAPM  
UVZ, OBQ GUOYY GPAID-  
SR UVZ, OBQ GUOYY  
GCVF ICAB UVZ, OBQ  
GUOYY MVYY UVZ: OBQ  
FUR FUV DQ QOJ UR  
GUOYY DVGR OSOVB.  
ZODM FRB: FUVDFJ-TAID

Clue: Z = M

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Luke Twenty-Two: Forty-Two.



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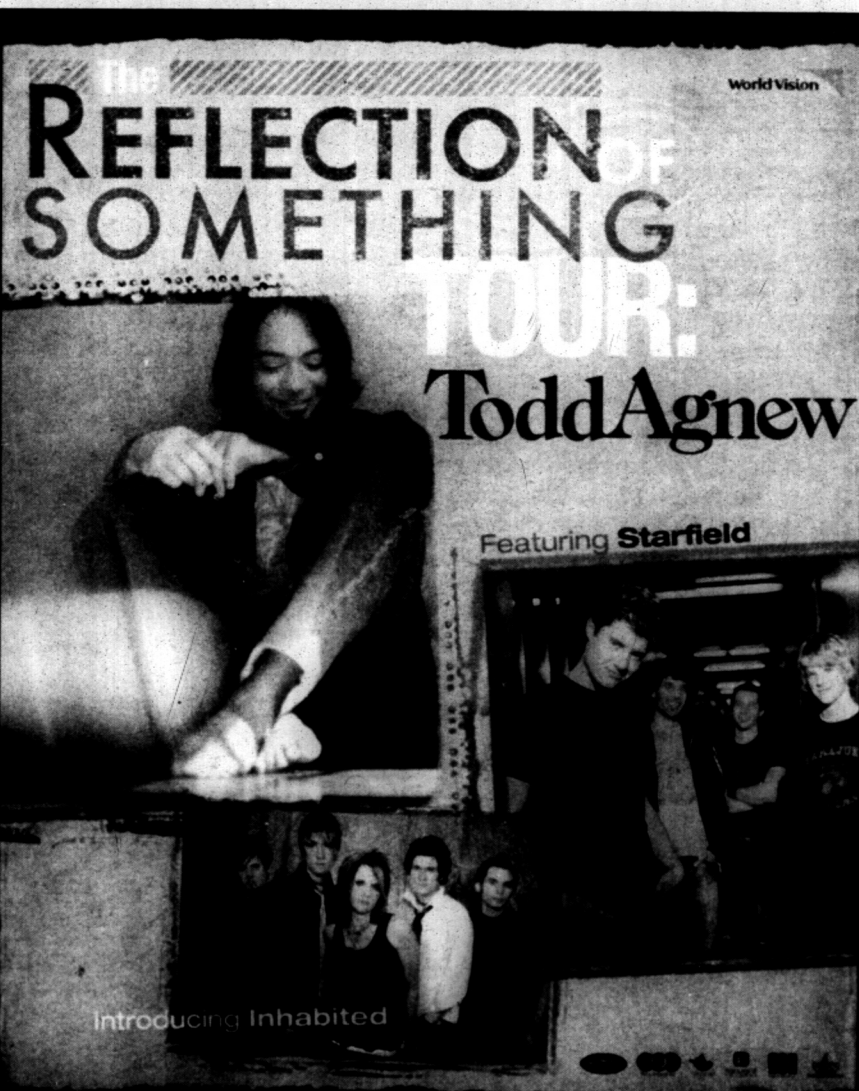
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